

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A process for the production of paper, board and or cardboard, said process comprising: [[by]]
shearing the a paper stock,
adding a microparticle system comprising a cationic polymer and a finely divided inorganic component to the paper stock after the last shearing stage before ~~the~~ a head box,
draining the paper stock and forming a sheet, with sheet formation and
drying said sheet, the sheets,
wherein said cationic polymer is selected from the group consisting of cationic polyacrylamides, ~~polymers containing polyacrylamide, a polymer comprising one or more~~
vinylamine units, ~~and/or polydiallyldimethylammonium chloride~~ and mixtures thereof,
wherein said cationic polymer has having an average molar mass Mw of ~~in each case~~ at least 500 000 Dalton and a charge density of ~~in each case~~ not more than 4.0 meq/g ~~are used as~~
~~cationic polymers of the microparticle system, and~~
the microparticle system is used as a retention aid ~~being~~ and is free of one or more polymers having a charge density of more than 4 meq/g.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said cationic polymer is said cationic ~~polyacrylamides~~ polyacrylamide having an average molar mass Mw of at least 5 million Dalton and a charge density of from 0.1 to 3.5 meq/g ~~are used as cationic polymers of the microparticle system.~~

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said cationic polymer is said polymer comprising one or more vinylamine units obtained polyvinylamines ~~which are obtainable~~ by hydrolysis of ~~polymers containing a polymer comprising one or more~~ vinylformamide units, the degree of hydrolysis of the vinylformamide units being from 20 to 100 mol% and the average molar mass of the polyvinylamines being at least 2 million Dalton, ~~are used as cationic polymers of the microparticle system.~~

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A process as claimed in claim 1, ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein the cationic polymer of the microparticle system is added to the paper stock in an amount of from 0.005 to 0.5% by weight, based on dry paper stock.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A process as claimed in claim 1, ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~, wherein the cationic polymer of the microparticle system is added to the paper stock in an amount of from 0.01 to 0.2% by weight, based on dry paper stock.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A process as claimed in claim 1, ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~, wherein said inorganic component is at least one material selected from the group consisting of bentonite, colloidal silica, silicate, and/or calcium carbonate, and mixtures thereof. ~~is used as the inorganic component of the microparticle system.~~

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A process as claimed in claim 1, ~~any of claims 1 to 6~~, wherein the inorganic component of the microparticle system is added to the paper stock in an amount of from 0.01 to 1.0% by weight, based on dry paper stock.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A process as claimed in claim 1, ~~any of claims 1 to 7~~, wherein the inorganic component of the microparticle system is added to the paper stock in an amount of from 0.1 to 0.5% by weight, based on dry paper stock.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A process as claimed in claim 1, ~~any of claims 1 to 8~~, wherein ~~first~~ the cationic polymer is metered into the paper stock and then the inorganic component of the microparticle system ~~are~~ is metered into the paper stock.